

# Thule Times

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Photo by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble

Colonel John Haven, 821st Air Base Group Commander, leads the charge into North Star Bay for the annual Polar Bear Swim. The commanders were the first to test the 29 degree water.



Photo by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble

Members of Team Thule arrive at Tugboat Beach for the Polar Bear Swim Aug. 18

## Polar bear swim is Thule's "coolest" event

By 1st Lt Jennifer Tribble  
821 Air Base Group Public Affairs

Some showed up with floaties, others with towels, sunglasses and sunscreen. Still others showed up with a hot cup of coffee or hot chocolate. Most importantly, they all showed up ready to participate in Thule's annual Polar Bear Swim.

About 100 members of Team Thule flocked to the shores of Tugboat Beach to test the waters of North Star Bay Aug. 18.

Although the temperature hovered in the low 40s, the water temperature was a frigid 29 degrees.

Before the event began, some of the gatherers discussed their strategies for attacking the chilly waters.

"My plan was to run into the water up to my knees and then dive in," said Tech Sgt. Charles Dickens, 821st Support Squadron, Chief of Logistics Plans and Programs. "The less time in the water, the better."

For some, one dip into the freezing waters wasn't enough. These "double dippers" dared to enter the water a second time. While two times might seem crazy to some people, three times was certainly unthinkable to most.

"Twice was enough for me," said 1st Lieutenant James Allman, 821st Air Base Group, Executive Officer.

According to Anette Christensen, Event Organizer, participants take the polar bear swim challenge for several reasons. Some do it for the certificate of completion and the T-shirt, but others do

it for the bragging rights she said.

"It's insane to go into freezing cold water," Ms. Christensen said. "And you get to tell everyone else that you did it!"

Most all the participants look forward to the swim with excitement, but with a hint of anxiety as well, she said.

The polar bear swim is a unique physical challenge that is sometimes more difficult to explain than the experience itself.

"It takes your breath away as soon as the water hits your thighs," said. Tech Sgt. Dickens.

For anyone who has doubts about participating in the annual dip, Ms. Christensen offers a bit of advice.

"Just do it," she said, "It's not as bad as it looks. It's so spectacular, you just have to do it!" **(More photos on Pg. 9)**

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# Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain Dave DePinho  
Installation Chaplain

Why read an article on forestalling sadness (keeping sadness away). You may be thinking, sadness? I'm not sad. I feel fine. If that describes you, I am glad to hear it. But wait just minute, have you noticed you or someone around you becomes irritated more easily than before? Or do you, or they, seem to be disturbed by small nuisances that may not have bothered you or them before. This is sometimes described as being in a more "fragile" state of mind.

It happens for all sorts of reasons and is perfectly normal. There are lots of reasons for increased fragility in our emotions. Most of these reasons come under the general heading of stress. Stress is the medical name for much of the Thule experience. Consider these stressors:

1. Separation from loved ones
2. Significantly different surroundings
3. NO CAR!
4. Cold weather
5. Lack of sunshine

That list describes Thule for most. In fact, some folks start out disappointed that they came to Thule! Until, of course, they get here and find out how wonderful it is!

Even when we get over our disappointments they still have exacted a toll on our emotions. To say it another way, all stress has an effect on our emo-

tional health. Even good stress affects us, be it a marriage or the birth of a child. Even a trip home from the island can leave us more fragile afterwards. When we are more fragile (pre-blues), we run the risk of making decisions that can move us over into the "blues" and from "blues" to full blown depression.

In general terms let me give you an example of what happened to me a few weeks ago. I wanted to accomplish a task that I thought was reasonable and got myself prepared and went to work. After two hours working on the project I found that I couldn't do it while here at Thule. It was really no big deal. Not on the face of it anyway.

But afterward, I noticed that I was sad. More sad than I normally would be. So I had a decision to make. I could go home and eat chocolate and sit in my room watching TV and get more "bummed out" and sad, or I could change my mood. I chose the latter.

I know what makes me feel good so I went to the BX and bought something! Yes, something as simple as a five dollar purchase "snapped" me out of it. And that's the key, it was something small, I didn't make a \$500.00 purchase, that would have depressed me more as I thought about paying it off! And I could have taken a drive or went to see a friend, or a dozen other things that wouldn't have cost me anything. But I did do something that was

intentionally designed to make me feel better.

When we are emotionally fragile we need to take note of it and guard against habits that make things worse. And some things can't be avoided. Consider that soon it will be dark all day long. A lack of light will have an adverse effect on people with the most positive mood. So prepare now while it's light!

Create good habits, watch the alcohol intake, it is a depressant. Get involved with a group of friends, talk with people here at Thule and not just on the phone with people who are back home (but do that too). Get involved with a task oriented group, honor guard, the chapel social program, a bowling team, Wednesday night Bible studies, getting to the gym and exercising is a must, worship, whatever it is, find a few things that happen regularly and write them into your schedule and don't miss them! Particularly when you are "blue"! And for those of you who don't know what the "blues" are? For those of you with an eternal smile? Watch out for your workmates and the rest of Thule family, we need you.

We can't fool ourselves into believing we can put life on hold or sleep though Thule in our off-duty hours. That thinking leads to depression. In short, get involved and get ahead of the challenges of an arctic winter. One of the most accurate descriptions I know of sadness and depression, is to say that it is "painful". It hurts! So take the time now to save yourself some pain later!

## Chapel Schedule

Sunday 9:45 a.m. - LDS Service, Conference Room  
 Sunday 10 a.m. - Sunday School, Annex  
 Sunday 11 a.m. - Protestant Service, Sanctuary  
 Wednesday 6 p.m. - Bible Study, Annex  
 Thursday 5 p.m. - Music Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
 Friday 7:30 p.m. - Game Night, Annex  
 Saturday 3:30 p.m. - Music Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
 Saturday 5 p.m. - Catholic Mass, Sanctuary

Have a photograph or story  
 for the Thule Times?  
 Submit it to  
 ThuleTimes@thule.af.mil

# Thule APO delivers

By 1st Lt Jennifer Tribble  
821st Air Base Group Public Affairs

THULE AIR BASE, Greenland – Every week, nearly 150 American men and women here wait to hear the three little words that mean the most. The moment the three small lights of the American Post Office are illuminated, the could-be package recipients begin spending countless hours waiting, wondering and hoping that today will be the day they hear the words, “You’ve got mail.”

Master Sgt. Zanitta Kisner, Postmaster, says that mail services at Thule contribute to the overall morale of the people stationed here. When the mail arrives, the APO staff hears about it from the base’s American population.

“We hear about it when they don’t get it too,” she added.

Thule’s remote location, 700 miles north of the Arctic Circle, has made receiving and sending letters and packages a challenge in the past. Recently, however, the APO has shortened delivery time of mail from 2-4 weeks, to an average of 7-10 days.

Packages sent to Thule are sent from nearby cities or other states to a United States Postal Service sorting and customs center in New York. From there, the packages are sent to the Bulk Mail Center in New Jersey and transported to McGuire AFB, N.J. The packages are then flown into Thule.

Registered mail follows a similar path, but bypasses the Bulk Mail Center.

Letter Class Mail addressed to

Thule is sent from nearby cities or other states to a mail servicing center in Kilmer, N.J. and then transported to a U.S. Postal Service Center in New Jersey. The mail is then transported to Ft. Dix, N.J. and finally McGuire AFB before arriving to Thule by air.

Thule’s APO staff knows how important mail service is for the morale of Americans at Thule.

“One of the best parts about working here is that you get to visit with everyone when they come in looking for mail,” said Staff Sgt. Douglas Reighard, Custodian of Postal Effects.

In fact, Airman John Ortiz, Base Information Transfer Center Clerk, hasn’t even met most of Thule’s personnel, but he knows who they are. By working with the mail, he’s been able to mentally connect most personnel with their mailbox numbers.

“He’s kind of like the ‘Rain Man’ of mail,” said Tech Sgt Jason Swift, Assistant Postmaster.

To improve its service and prevent delays, the APO tracks the time it takes for a letter to get from Thule to the United States and back to Thule each week.

“We send a test letter each week to Colorado, Virginia and New York,” said Staff. Sgt. Swift. “We put the date we sent it and once it’s received, the date received is put on the letter and sent back to us.”

This process has enabled the APO staff to identify any delays in mail service and make changes to correct the problems, ensuring letters and parcels

are delivered.

Most personnel assigned to Thule leave at the completion of their year tour, but that doesn’t mean their mail is no longer serviced.

“If the mail is first class, it gets forwarded using a special database,” said Staff Sgt. Swift. “But most people we get mail for that have moved, we’ve memorized.” **(Continued on page 9)**



Photo by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble  
**Tech Sgt. Lee Abraham sorts through mail before posting it at the APO.**



Photo by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble  
**Airman Ciairra Lewis completes servicing paperwork after receiving packages.**

## Upcoming Birthdays

Tech Sgt. Sean Kavanagh	Sep 1	Staff Sgt. Kelly Phipps	Sep 20
Tech Sgt. Andrew Williams	Sep 4	Master Sgt. Charles Wigger	Sep 20
Master Sgt. Martin Clark	Sep 5	Tech Sgt. Craig Lewis	Sep 22
Senior Airman Gary Hamre	Sep 5	Master Sgt. Octavio Villanueva	Sep 22
Tech Sgt. Robert Burnett	Sep 5	2nd Lieutenant Diana Melcher	Sep 23
Airman 1st Class Robert Walters	Sep 14	1st Lt. Dave Curb	Sep 24
1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble	Sep 14	Airman 1st Class John Pickens	Sep 28
		Tech Sgt. Scott Stolte	Sep 29

# Thule promotes eight to staff sergeant

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas -- The Air Force has selected 13,625 of 33,306 eligible senior airmen for promotion to staff sergeant, a 40.91 percent selection rate.

The Air Force will release the promotion list at 1400Z Aug. 11. The complete list of selectees will be posted to the Air Force Personnel Center's web page, <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/eprom/>, by 6 p.m. central time Aug. 13.

"Certainly the Air Force has had another banner year in terms of promotion," said Chief Master Sgt. Mark Billingsley, enlisted promotions branch chief at AFPC. "The Air Force has singled out those senior airmen who have shown they are ready for the next big step in their career. This group has worked hard for their stripes and will make valuable contributions as our newest NCOs."

People who tested are expected to receive their score notices by the end of August, allowing them to see just how their Promotion Fitness Examination and Specialty Knowledge Test scores rank against others within their Air

Force Specialty Code. Each Airmen can also get an electronic copy of his or her score notice, Aug. 16, by logging into the virtual Military Personnel Flight at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>.

The average score for those selected was 272.33 points, with the following averages:

-- 130.85 Enlisted Performance Reports

-- 58.23 Promotion Fitness Exam

-- 54.29 Specialty Knowledge Test

-- 16.43 Time in Grade

-- 10.88 Time in Service

-- 0.79 Decorations

The average selectee has 1.77 years time in grade and 4.39 years in service. Those selected will be promoted to staff sergeant from September to August 2005.

At Thule, the following Senior Airmen were selected for promotion to Staff Sergeant: Senior Airman Jared Austin, Senior Airman Dwain Henderson, Senior Airman Cameron Herriges, Senior Airman Stephen Morgese, Senior Airman James Sese, Senior Airman Josefina Sullivan, Senior Airman Sara Sword and Senior Airman Roxanne Wood.



Photo by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble

**Capt. Joe Gallagher surprises Senior Airman Cameron Herriges with her promotion to Staff Sergeant Aug. 11.**



Photo by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble

**Senior Airman Roxanne Wood is awoken to hear about her promotion to Staff Sergeant Aug. 11.**

## Surprise! You've been promoted



Tech Sgt. Philip Kyger, Communications Computer Systems Quality Assurance Evaluator (far left) is surprised to learn about his promotion to Master Sergeant. Tech Sgt. Keith Turney, NCOIC of Installation Security, (left) is surprised with his promotion to Master Sgt. by Capt. Joseph Gallagher, 821st Security Forces Squadron Commander. The two were selected for promotion to Master Aug. 17. The practice of congratulating newly promoted personnel continues to be a Thule tradition.

**Send story ideas to the Thule Times at [ThuleTimes@thule.af.mil](mailto:ThuleTimes@thule.af.mil) Want to submit a story or photograph? Call the 821st Air Base Group Public Affairs Office at ext. 5678, or stop by Bldg. 461, rm. 9**

# Thule Marathon, it's a Lonely Road

By Lt. Col. Franklin "Joey" Hinson  
12 Space Warning Squadron Commander

I'm not a marathoner and in fact until last year I had never considered the possibility of torturing myself for four hours while attempting to run 26.2 miles. The evil thought first surfaced when a friend in Germany did the Paris Marathon in the spring of 2003. He talked with such excitement of the 40,000 runners; the cheering crowds, the jamming bands, and the great post run celebration. He made it sound like a blast and assured me that anyone could run a marathon...all it takes is a plan.

I downloaded the recommended 16-week plan and promptly filed it away since the Paris Marathon of 2004 was still 50 weeks away. I wouldn't need the plan for another eight months. Well, as luck would have it when I was 16-weeks out from the big event, the family schedule

conveniently interfered with the marathon so I was off the hook and could continue "talking" about running a marathon rather than actually doing it.

Fast forward six months and I'm now at Thule Air Base. My first day in the gym I noticed the marathon plaque and then temporarily lost my sanity and said to no one in particular, "I'm going to do that". Somehow, my predecessor Dingo Doyne translated my insanity into "Hinson is a runner". For the record, this is false, completely false. A runner is someone who runs for enjoyment and pleasure. Make no mistake about it, I don't enjoy running. I enjoy sitting in "Big Blue" watching sporting events.

But I have a problem. I'm 12 weeks from the big day, Aug. 7 and I have a 16-week plan. Easy fix, I'll just fast forward into week 5. Fortunately, this wasn't much of a problem as the first weeks of the program weren't too intense. The



Photo by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble  
Lt. Col. Joey Hinson takes the first few steps of 26 miles during the Thule annual marathon Aug. 8.

weather and road conditions at Thule forced most of my training to be done indoors at our wonderful fitness facility. It is much easier to run long distances with a television in front of you. All I had to do for my long training runs (15 and 20 miles) was imagine that I was sitting in "Big Blue" watching the golf tournament or baseball game in front of me and before I knew it hours would have passed by.

In addition to my weekly running, I also attempted to pick the brains of some Thuleites that were experienced marathoners. Hydrate, Hydrate, Hydrate was the message received loud and clear. Finally the week was here. After a week (entire summer) of cloud, winds, and rain, the sun managed to break through on marathon day.

I must say I was disappointed when I got to the start line and realized that there would be no one to run with. Injuries and scheduling conflicts meant a few folks who had earlier committed to the run couldn't participate. After stretching and getting some directions I started out on the lonely road.

Four hours and twenty-three minutes later I was back where I started nearly in tact. The legs from the quadriceps down to the calves were cramping and the feet and toes were aching from the pounding on the rocky marathon road. So, how

*("Marathon" Continued on page 7)*

## Running on top of the world



Photo by 1st Lt Jennifer Tribble

Runners of the Thule Marathon and half-marathon braved wet and windy weather conditions to compete in the annual event. Race participants are (from left) Kim Pedersen Maj. Mike Hower, Col. John Haven, Maj. Randy Boswell, Steffen Nielsen, Brian Weihe and Lt. Col. Joey Hinson.

## Perfecting, honoring a treasured military courtesy

By Tech. Sgt. James Brabenc  
AFPC Public Affairs

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** - For most people the salute symbolizes the honor and respect inherent in the military lifestyle. Despite its significance, I've noticed a variety of salutes during my Air Force career such as:

- the "tennis elbow" salute, delivered with the elbow low and close to the body;
- the "Capt. Hook" salute characterized by the cup-like shape of the fingers and palm of the hand;
- the "who goes there?" salute, which features the fingers of the right hand coming to rest somewhere over the right eyebrow; and
- the "Off we go" salute where the right hand flies swiftly forward instead of taking its normal downward path along the gig line.

I'm not quite sure where these salutes came from, because Air Force Manual 36-2203, "Drill and Ceremonies," provides rather concise guidelines.

The manual states to correctly salute raise the right hand smartly in the most direct manner while at the same time extending and joining the fingers. Keep the palm flat and facing the body. Place the thumb along the forefingers, keeping the palm flat and forming a straight line

between the fingertips and elbow. Tilt the palm slightly toward the face. Hold the upper arm horizontal, slightly forward of the body and parallel to the ground. Ensure the tip of the middle finger touches the right front corner of either the billed hat or outside corner of the right eyebrow or the front corner of glasses if no hat is worn. To complete the salute, bring the arm smoothly and smartly downward, retracing the path used to raise the arm.

Sounds easy, but how about the snap most Airmen prefer? For that I checked in with Master Sgt. Anthony Gardner, superintendent of the Randolph Air Force Base Honor Guard. He said any movement the honor guard performs only gains its precision through practice - something they do regularly. He added that same adherence to practice will sharpen any Airman's salute.

I recall how practice played a key role in getting through saluting during basic training. We learned this maneuver then anxiously waited our turns to knock at the training instructor's door, march in, report and smartly salute. We all practiced quietly reciting our report and salute prior to that moment under scrutiny. Invariably nerves set in and many failed, but over time we learned how to deliver a good salute.

Moving on to technical school my awareness of the salute came frequently to bear during change of command and retirement ceremonies. Standing at



Photo By 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble  
**Staff Sgt. Jason Winkle, 821st Security Forces Squadron, demonstrates a salute.**

attention in the hot Mississippi summer heat we answered our group commander's call for "present arms" as hundreds of young Airmen flashed precision salutes.

I'd be a liar if I said my conduct has always been completely exemplary. While on assignment overseas, I'd follow the lead of my golfing buddies and duck under the eaves of a building to keep from saluting during the daily two-nation retreat ceremony.

However, I can say those selfish habits are in the past, and I now enjoy saluting. Although I doubt I'll ever be as good as an honor guard member, I do know each opportunity to show respect to the flag or to Air Force officers provides me a chance to perfect my salute.

Practice your salute; it may be a courtesy that grows on you too.

## Adapting to the AEF Cycle: What it Means to AFSPC

By General Lance W. Lord  
Commander, Air Force Space Command

The Air Force Chief of Staff, General John Jumper, recently announced the Aerospace Expeditionary Force (AEF) cycle has been lengthened to a 20-month cycle and will have 120-day deployments. This adjustment will help us provide better continuity to the combatant commanders as we continue to fight the Global War on Terrorism. Before AEF Cycle 5, deployments were approximately 90 days. Experience has shown that this was not sufficient, as spin-up time and preparation for redeployment to home station eroded the usable time to 60 days or less. With 120-day deployments, continuity and usability of our deployment forces should be significantly increased.

Along with this change, every commander in the Air Force has been tasked to expand his or her pool of deployable personnel. In AFSPC, we need to posture all our authorizations in the AEF libraries, even those authorizations that had been exempt in the past. By doing so, senior leaders can prioritize mission requirements and better determine what capabilities the Air Force, and in particular AFSPC, can bring to the fight.

As an example, AFSPC previously did not posture our 20 AF missile field security forces. Now, however, they will be postured. This will allow senior leadership to weigh mission priorities, risks and the ramifications of all forces and determine where best to deploy them.

It's important to keep in mind that all Airmen are deployable. Our AFSPC mission is essential to the fight and we have to ensure that our combatant commanders' requirements are met, both in the deployed environment and here at our home stations.

In a recent "Sight Picture," the AF Chief of Staff said, "Every Airman—Active, Guard, Reserve and Civilian—must be focused on our national commitment to the Global War on Terrorism. Our job is to deploy and deal with terrorists wherever they are in the world..."

Every member of this command is crucial to the fight, whether launching, operating, securing or supporting an AFSPC weapon system or carrying a weapon in Iraq. Everyone must do his or her part as we continue this battle. Our people are our most precious resource and are key to our success as a command and an Air Force. With the dedicated professionals in AFSPC, we will continue to bring the fight to the enemy and we will prevail.

**("Marathon" Continued from page 5)** does the Thule Marathon compare to Paris. Hopefully, I'll be better able to answer that question a few years down the road. I may not have had 40,000 or even 1 other runner with me and unless I overlooked them the jamming bands took the day off. But, I did have plenty of support and encouragement. The marvelous folks in Services along with volunteers were at each of the water stations cheering and encouraging me. In fact after I hit the "wall" and my legs were telling me to stop, Kim Pederson drove up and offered some much needed encouragement.

A week after the marathon, I feel a little like Forrest Gump as I say, "Life is like a marathon". Here's what I mean:

You have to have a plan and a goal. I thought my planning was good. It should have been better. I failed to scout the

course and thus had no idea on the huge incline between miles 11 and 13. Some interval hill training would have paid huge benefits and been appreciated by my legs that threatened to shut down before I reached the peak.

You have to have discipline--- planning is good, but you have to execute every day. Many days I didn't feel like running. But you can't base your actions on how you feel; you base your actions on what you have to do.

You have to challenge yourself--- don't be happy with the status quo. Your "marathon" may not be 26.2 miles. It may be getting a "GOOD" score on the AF Fitness Test, earning that next promotion, or losing that extra 10 pounds you've acquired over the last year.

See you on the road.....and it won't be so lonely for either of us!

## Thule offers TV program choices

Unlike many other overseas locations, Thule has a variety of cable television programming. Live broadcast through CANCOM brings all of the major stateside networks, i.e. CBS, ABC, NBC, and FOX, in addition to United States Armed Forces Network (AFN) whose broadcasts give up-to-date military news from around the world and provide 24-hour sports and news programming channels.

In addition to stateside broadcasts, Thule receives one Greenlandic and two Danish television channels. Channel 2 airs Greenland Contractors (GC) public service announcements in Danish and Greenlandic. Channel 28, Kalaallit Nunaata Radio (Radio Greenland), is an independent station based in Nuuk, Greenland's capital, and broadcasts television throughout Greenland. KNR TV broadcasts about 300 hours of Greenlandic, and about 2,000 hours of Danish programs per year. Channel 26 broadcasts Danish movies that are aired locally and are made possible by Greenland Contractor's (GC) welfare fund.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) provides Team Thule

with VHS-formatted movies before they are normally available on video. The first-run AAFES movies are first shown in the Community Center Movie Room and then aired on Thule's cable system. The Channel 17 Movie Schedule highlights upcoming AAFES movies.

The 821st Services Flight supplements first-run AAFES movies with Non Appropriated Funds purchased movies. Services also provides NAF contract movie operators and NAF technicians to maintain the video equipment. A master movie inventory is maintained on [<Prancer/Public/Services/Movie Channel Request List>](#) for those with US LAN access, or through a hard copy disseminated to the Community Center and the North Star Inn. Interested individuals may request movies to be shown by calling ext 7888.

The Services Flight master movie listing, and Channel 17 movie schedules reflect movie ratings. This is in an effort to inform viewers of the movie's content. The ratings will denote potentially offense content including violence, language, and/or sexual content/

## THULE TV GUIDE

Ch 2	Danish Information Channel
Ch 3	Danish Information Channel
Ch 4	Airport Information
Ch 5	Commander's Information
Ch 6	Base Weather Information
Ch 7	Air Greenland Information
Ch 8	Services Information Channel
Ch 9	WBZ—Boston, Mass.
Ch 10	WDIV—Detroit, Mich.
Ch 11	WXYZ—Detroit, Mich.
Ch 12	KARE—Minneapolis, Minn.
Ch 13	WGBH—Boston, Mass.
Ch 14	WUHF—Rochester, N.Y.
Ch 15	WCCO—Minneapolis, Minn.
Ch 16	Services Movies
Ch 17	Services Movies
Ch 18	Services Movies
Ch 19	Services Movies
Ch 20	Services Movies
Ch 21	Services Movies
Ch 23	Services Movies
Ch 24	Services Movies
Ch 25	Music Videos
Ch 26	Danish Movies
Ch 27	Danish Movies
Ch 28	Greenlandic TV—KNR
Ch 29	AFN Pacific
Ch 30	AFN Spectrum
Ch 31	AFN Atlantic
Ch 32	AFN News
Ch 33	AFN Pentagon
Ch 34	AFN Sports
Ch 35	AFN Movies
Ch 37	AFN Family
Ch 38	Radio—Contingency
Ch 39	Radio—NPR
Ch 40	Radio—Adult Rock
Ch 41	Radio—ESPN Radio
Ch 42	Radio—FOX Sports Radio

nudity.

Additionally, Channel 18 is dedicated to broadcasting only Parental Guidance (PG), PG-13, Not Rated (NR) and General (G) rated movies. This is analogous to the movies in Denmark that are "not rated" since they are suitable for viewing by people of any age.

Services is always trying to improve Thule's quality-of-life programs and always solicit feedback.

For more information about locally aired movies and music videos, contact Mitchell Hebert, Services Director, ext 2445 or Master Sgt. Valerie Bailey, Services QAE, ext 2405, or Tech Sgt. John Link, Cable TV QAE, ext 2535 for music radio.

# Commander's call ends in pie-throwing

By 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble  
821st Air Base Group Public Affairs

The bidding began with just one dollar and within minutes, all five pies were sold. Defenseless, the targets had to wait their turn to receive their pies.

Five members of Team Thule were voted upon to receive pies in the face during Commander's Call Aug. 23.

The "Pie in the Face" contest was sponsored by the Thule Top 4 Association and created weeks of close competition before the "winners" were announced. The members of Team Thule had the opportunity to pay for votes for pie recipients.

First to receive a pie in the face was Staff Sgt. Venessa Hernandez, 821st Air Base Group Command Section NCOIC.

During the weeks preceding the event, friends created the Protect Venessa Foundation in an effort to raise money to keep her out of the lead. Despite their efforts, Staff Sgt. Hernandez still remained in the top five.

Also receiving a pie was Capt. Tyler Nielsen, 821st Support Squadron Civil Engineer Flight Chief.

Not changing his uniform before receiving his pie, Capt. Tyler Nielsen told the crowd, "If it's good enough to die in, it's good enough to get pie in."

Master Sgt. Curtis Huffman, 821st Security Forces Operations Superintendent also received a pie despite his suddenly realized intolerance to dairy products.

Sharing the pie experience, Master Sgt. Jerry Fowler, 821st Support Squadron Mechanical and Electrical Quality Assurance Evaluator, returned some of his pie to 1st Lt. Dave Curb after getting

hit.

The final pie recipient was Capt. Joe Gallagher, 821st Security Forces Squadron Commander.

Before Senior Airman Carolena Prior, delivered the blow, Capt. Gallagher reminded everyone, "I like pie!"

The event raised approximately \$1,100 for the Top 4 and will be used to fund Airmen and enlisted appreciation events.

Top 4 President, Master Sgt. Martin Clark said, "Based on the success of this fundraising event, it will most likely be one that is continued."

The Top 4 Association is chartered to promote professionalism, development and camaraderie throughout the ranks and to set an example of unified quality leadership and management.

All staff sergeants through senior master sergeants assigned to Thule AB are eligible to participate in the Thule Top 4 Association.

For more information regarding the Thule Top 4 Association, contact one of the following individuals: Master Sgt. Martin Clark, President, Master Sgt. John Borowski, Vice President, Tech Sgt. Corey Burnett, Secretary and Master Sgt. Chad Keller, Treasurer.



**From Top Right:** Staff Sgt. Venessa Hernandez makes one final plea to Chaplain (Capt.) Dave DePinho before getting "Pied". Airman John Ortiz smashes one on Capt. Tyler Nielsen. Senior Airman Carolena Prior apologizes to Capt. Joe Gallagher moments before "pieing" him. Master Sgt. Jerry Fowler celebrates after receiving his pie, and somewhat returning it to 1st Lt. Dave Curb. Airman 1st Class Joseph Petruzzi smashes Master Sgt. Curtis Huffman with a pie. All pie recipients were the winners of the Thule Top 4 "Pie in the Face" contest.

**Order your  
Thule Coin today!  
Call Staff Sgt.  
Venessa  
Hernandez at 3414.**

**Want to make a difference  
at Team Thule?**

**Volunteer for the Thule Air  
Base Color Guard!**

**For more info., call Staff  
Sgt. Venessa Hernandez at  
3414.**

### Assistant Secretary visits Thule



Photo By 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble

Mr. Nelson Gibbs, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics reviews the Thule General Plan with Maj. Randy Boswell, 821st Support Squadron Commander. Col. Michael Smietana, SAF/IE and Col Haven, 821st Air Base Group Commander, also look on. Mr. Gibbs toured Thule and had the opportunity to meet with Airmen to discuss their views and perspectives of life at the Top of the World Aug. 26 -27.

*(Continued from page 3)*

Bulk mail for personnel no longer assigned here is destroyed. Magazines and catalogues received for departed personnel are available to anyone and are located in the lobby, as well as an area for used cardboard boxes.

For mail sent to Thule, the APO staff recommends using the postal code "APO AE" instead of writing "Greenland" on the recipient line. By addressing a package or letter to Greenland, the package will enter the Greenlandic postal system and get to Thule by less-direct routes.

"The best bet for fast service is to keep it in the American system," said Tech Sgt. Swift.

The Thule APO offers the same postal service as a regular post office in the United States, but does not take credit cards for payment.

Not only has the APO at Thule been providing Americans with mail they can't wait to receive, it has made the post office staff some of the most popular people around.

For Staff Sgt. Douglas Reighard, the popularity of his position at the APO has been rewarding.

"It's great!" he said, "I feel like Santa Clause when I get to give people packages," he said.

The APO is open Mondays and Thursdays from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays, 8 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The lobby is open 24-hours, every day.

## Snapshots of the Polar Bear Swim



Photos by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble

Top: The final group takes to the water during the Thule annual Polar Bear Swim Aug. 18. Above: Members of Team Thule celebrate as they exit North Star Bay .



Photo by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble

Airman John Ortiz sorts through BITC mail at the Thule APO.

# The Lighter Side of Thule



Chaplain DePinho expresses his excitement after agreeing to a friendly game of 'Mars Attacks!' with 1st Lt. James Allman during a skit at the Commander's Call at the TOW Club Aug. 23.

Photos by 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble



The bowling competition decided the outcome of the BOXTOP Olympics—a tie or a loss.



Whatcha workin' on Chief?



Ahhh, It's just another day of work for Capt. Mark Arzate.



Thule's BOXTOP Olympic team tied for the championship title during August's event. Although the trophy remained with the Canadian team, Team Thule has vowed to get it back next Spring.

**Recently promoted  
or awarded a medal?  
Did you just arrive at  
Thule?  
Let folks back home  
know about it.  
Fill out a Hometown  
News Release—stop  
by Public Affairs,  
Bldg. 461, rm 9, or  
call 5678.**

## Thule Times Editorial Staff

Col. John Haven II, 821st Air Base Group commander  
1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble, chief, public affairs  
Add your name here as a staff writer!—call PA at 5678

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